developing countries as official Development Assistance and to attain the target of 0.15% of their GNP for assistance to the least developed countries as soon as possible. They also agreed to consider enhancing their assistance for adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development programmes in the developing countries.

Increase/Decrease in Public Sector Institutions

1199. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any change in the number of public sector undertakings and in the number of employees working therein during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any improvement has been noticed in utilisation of the installed capacity during the above period; and

(d) if so, the details of such units which are making production by utilising the 90%, 75%, 50% and 25% more capacity than their installed capacity during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The details for three years ending 31.3.1994 upto which period only the information is available, are given below :

Year	No. of PSUs	No. of regular employees
1991-92	246	21.79 lakhs
1992-93	245	21.52 lakhs
1993-94	246	20.69 lakhs

(c) and (d). The details of utilisation of installed capacity by various public sector undertakings are available in the Statement No. 23 of Volume I of the Public Enterprises Survey 1993-94 laid on the Table of the House on 22nd March, 1995.

Import of Newsprint

1200. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Tribune' dated July 21, 1996 under captioned 'Scam in newsprint unearthed';

(b) if so, the details thereof and the modus-operandi of the scam;

(c) whether the Government propose to impose restrictions on the import of newsprint to avoid its misuse; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Prior to 30th April, 1995, import of newsprint was permitted in accordance with the provisions of Public Notice No. 118/PN(92-97) dt. 31st March, 1993, which, inter alia, allowed import for those who held a certificate of entitlement to import newsprint issued by the Registrar of Newspapers for India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi. According to available information, CBI has called for certain details from the Registrar of Newspapers to get relevant procedures and documents required for working out entitlement of newsprint for such entitlement certificates. No other details are available with the Ministry of Commerce in this regard.

(c) and (d). Import of newsprint is freely permitted under the current Export & Import Policy.

[English]

Trade Agreement With Canada

1201. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed recently between India and Canada for export promotion;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which this agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). No Trade Agreement with Canada was signed by the Government. However, agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation was signed during the visit of the Canadian Prime Minister to India in January, 1996, which is expected to contribute to an increase of trade between the two countries.

SEBI Guidelines

1202. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has made some changes in regulations/guidelines governing the mutual funds during recent months;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by SEBI to make investment in mutual fund more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.